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DE RUEHTC #2301/01 2971447
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R 241447Z OCT 06
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 0400
INFO RUEHAT/AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM 1636
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7207

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 THE HAGUE 002301

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

FOR JAMES MCANULTY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OTRA](#) [EUN](#) [KCRM](#) [KJUS](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE GRANTED FOR USEU DELEGATION TO
VISIT THE HAGUE - OCTOBER 24-26, 2006

REF: BRUSSELS 3572

¶1. Country clearance is granted for Mark Richard, James McAnulty, Thomas Scarantino and Kathleen Conway to visit the Netherlands from October 24-26, 2006 to attend attend meetings at Europol and attend selected sessions of the cyber-crime Conference.

¶2. Embassy control officer for the visit is Global Issues Chief, Susan Garro: Work Phone - (31) (70) 310-2250; Cell Phone - (31) 65 181-6874; Home Phone - (31) (70) 385-0119. (When calling these numbers from the Netherlands a zero is placed before the city code.)

POST ACCESS:

¶3. Visitors who need unescorted access into secure areas of the Mission must provide proof of a clearance. If level of clearance was not provided in the original country clearance request it should be done by separate cable. The cable should include SSN, and the name of the agency granting the security clearance. Cables must include the ASEC Tag to ensure distribution to the RSO office.

COMPUTER and ELECTRONICS USAGE:

¶4. Inter-agency security standards prohibit the introduction or use of non-USG owned computer hardware and software at all USG diplomatic facilities. Cell phones, palm pilots, radios and other convenience electronics are prohibited in all secure areas of the Mission.

¶5. Travelers who anticipate having special needs in terms of either access or computer usage should contact the RSO office before arriving at post.

SECURITY ADVISORY:

¶6. Since July 9, 2004, the Dutch Government has implemented heightened security measures in response to concerns of terrorist activity. US citizens in The Netherlands are encouraged to monitor media reports, and are reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness.

American citizens should bear in mind that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. American citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

The U.S. Government remains deeply concerned about the

heightened possibility of terrorist attacks against U.S. citizens and interests abroad. As noted in the Department of State's Worldwide Caution of October 10, 2006, terrorists do not distinguish between official and civilian targets. Such targets may include facilities where U.S. citizens and other foreigners congregate or visit, including residential areas, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, schools, hotels and public areas. Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, assassination, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings. These may involve aviation and other transportation and maritime interests.

An area of concern for visitors to The Netherlands is crime. Most crimes against officials Americans are limited to pick-pocketing and purse and luggage theft. Theft from automobiles and hotel rooms are not unknown. Recently, theft of laptop computers has increased, especially at Schiphol Airport and major train stations. The thieves operate in small groups that target travelers. They are determined and well-practiced at distraction theft. Official travelers have been victimized, losing personal or unclassified government computers, software and data. Travelers are reminded that regulations require the use of the diplomatic pouch for shipment of classified equipment and information.

Streets can be walked in relative safety but, as in any U.S. urban area, caution and vigilance should be exercised especially after dark in the more populated cities of The Hague, Amsterdam and Rotterdam. Red-light districts and public transportation hubs are common locations for incidents of street crimes.

For the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's

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Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Cautions, Public Announcements, and Travel Warnings can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S., line at 1-317-472-2328. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Embassy 24-hour contact number if you request further assistance is: (31) (70) 310-2209.

SCHOFER